

## Preface

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This special issue of the Journal of Applied Electrochemistry is dedicated to the 9th European Symposium on Electrochemical Engineering (9th ESEE) which took place in Chania, Greece from June 19 to June 23, 2011. The 9th ESEE continues a successful tradition of Symposia organized since 1990 every 3 years by the Working Party on Electrochemical Engineering (WPEE) of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering (EFCE), tracing its origins back to a one-day meeting held in Loughborough (UK) in 1984. Since then this series of Symposia has successfully fulfilled its main aim, which is to bring together specialists working in the field of Electrochemical Engineering and Applied Electrochemistry and to provide a forum for recent developments and applications in these fields.

The 9th European Symposium on Electrochemical Engineering was devoted to “The Role of Electrochemical Engineering in Addressing Current Challenges in Energy, Environmental Sustainability, and Materials”. The aim of the Symposium was to point out the importance of Electrochemical Engineering in offering solutions to current technological and environmental problems, to highlight its interdisciplinary character and to emphasize the links between fundamental and applied aspects. Judging from the great interest and participation in the 9th ESEE

(117 participants from 22 different countries) and the high average quality of the submitted contributions, we believe that 9th ESEE fulfilled this aim and proved to be equally exciting as the previous European Symposia on Electrochemical Engineering.

The 9th ESEE program included 82 oral and 46 poster presentations. Among the oral presentations were included 8 keynote lectures, each one introducing a session with similar theme as well as 11 invited lectures, aiming to highlight particular topics. Following the established tradition, part of the 9th ESEE program was also the presentation of the Carl Wagner Medal of Excellence in Electrochemical Engineering by the WPEE Chairman (Professor Manuel Rodrigo, UCLM, Spain). Starting from 1999, the Carl Wagner Medal has been awarded every 3 years by the EFCE Working Party on Electrochemical Engineering to a European researcher under the age of 35 for outstanding contributions to research in Applied Electrochemistry or Electrochemical Engineering. On the recommendation of the eight-member Award Selection Committee, which had a very difficult task due to the high quality nominations, the 2011 Carl Wagner Medal of Excellence in Electrochemical Engineering was awarded to Dr. Charles Delacourt (Université de Picardie Jules Verne, France).

We would like to thank the members of the EFCE Working Party on Electrochemical Engineering for their support of the 9th ESEE, the reviewers of the abstracts for their valuable help, all participants for their very interesting contributions and their active involvement in the Symposium as well as all those who contributed to the successful organization of the 9th ESEE, in particular the members of the Organizing and Scientific Committees, the Carl Wagner Medal Award Selection Committee, and the Chairs of the Symposium sessions.

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This special issue comprises 17 papers and covers most of the topics discussed during the 9th European Symposium on Electrochemical Engineering, providing a representative overview. The subjects of the papers concern mainly electrochemical dynamics, modelling of electrochemical processes and reactors, energy production, electrochemical engineering applications in materials science and environmental applications of electrochemical engineering. We would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to the authors of the papers for accepting our

invitation to submit a paper based on their study presented in the 9th ESEE. Our special thanks also to the reviewers of the manuscripts, who greatly contributed to the improvement of the quality of the papers published in this issue. Finally, we would like to thank Professor Gerardine Botte, Editor of the Journal of Applied Electrochemistry, and Dr Kenneth Howell, Senior Editor of Springer, for their agreement to publish this issue as well as the Springer Journals Editorial Office for their technical support.